

Glenda Wiles**RECEIVED****From:** Bitterroot Good Neighbors [hello@bitterrootgoodneighbors.org]**Sent:** Thursday, October 11, 2007 5:15 PM**To:** Karen Hughes**Cc:** Glenda Wiles; Front Desk**Subject:** Hwy 93 Interim zoning**OCT 11 2007****Ravalli County Commissioners**

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Karen—

I'm writing to follow up my phone message earlier this week. One of the few things I know about time management is that the most valuable thing you can do is to accomplish those things that "leverage" your time, that enable you to get even more done.

One of the most powerful levers you have at your disposal is Interim Zoning, particularly for the Highway 93 corridor. What happens along that corridor has as great an impact on the health, safety and welfare of Ravalli County residents as anything else under your purview.

Unplanned major commercial development along Highway 93 is a danger to the citizens of Ravalli County. Anything that increases the number of trips per day along the highway, and in particular that increases the number of turning movements across the highway, is a public safety issue.

I understand that your department is swamped right now. You do not need one more thing to do--but to allow continued, uncontrolled commercial development along the 93 corridor just means that when you finally have time to address it, the problems will be worse and you'll have less ability to ensure that the public's interest is served.

What resources would you need in order for the Planning Department to signal to the County Commissioners that they could enact the draft Interim Zoning measure that the Bitterroot Good Neighbors Coalition circulated last summer (or something similar to it), and to begin developing a plan for the corridor?

If you can identify the resources that could make it possible, I would pledge to do what I can to come up with them, and to enlist others to the same purpose. If it's money to subcontract or to hire more staff; if it's identifying experts to help with planning, implementation, or any other issue, I would do what I can to find the resources. The one resource we're running desperately short of is time, and that's what only you and the Commissioners can provide. Interim zoning would buy the people of Ravalli County a year in which no major commercial development could occur along Highway 93, possibly two years, and a chance for us to direct our own future, rather than having to accept whatever is forced on us.

Thanks in advance for your thoughtful attention to this. Please feel free to call if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

10/12/2007

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